duration of 15 minutes, at 7.00 p.m. daily, has been introduced from Doordarshan Kendra, Shimla with effect from 1st November, 2000.

Survey of Various TV Channels

1037. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have caused a survey of the various TV Channels, including the FTV (Fashion Channel) to ensure that the programmes beamed by them are in accordance with the set code and culture of India; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to screen, regulate, control and if necessary, the objectionable and obscene transmissions beamed from overseas as also by indigenous firms and companies?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The Government has not conducted any survey of the programmes of satellite channels. On receipt of complaints of violation of the prescribed codes, the programmes of Fashion TV channel were monitored for a period of one week. Excerpts of the programme were shown to the Members of the Consultative Committee of MPs attached to the Ministry of I&B on 15th Feb., 2001. As decided in the Consultative Committee, the Government has taken up with the channel operators the need to adhere to the Programme code, prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules made thereunder, which provide, *inter-alia*, that no programme shall be carried in the cable service, which contains anything obscene, defamatory, deliberate, false and suggestive innuendos and half truths, and which denigrates women through the depiction, in any manner, of the figure of a women, her form or body or any part thereof in such a way as to have the effect of being indecent or derogatory to women, or is likely to deprive, corrupt and injure the public morality or morals. The producers of the programme assured to do so.

In the event of continued violation of the prescribed code, action has to be taken by the authorized officers of the State Government, which include a District Magistrate, a Sub-Divisional Magistrate, a Commissioner of Police or any other officer notified by the State Government.